

HUDSON, NH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the October 22, 2019 Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Morin the meeting of October 22, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Town Hall.

2. PLEGE OF ALLEGIANCE: led by John Beike, IT Specialist.

Chairman Morin asked to take a moment of silence for Gary Webster a retired Town Engineer who passed away yesterday. Thank you.

3. ATTENDANCE:

Board of Selectmen: David Morin, Kara Roy, Marilyn McGrath, Normand Martin, Roger Coutu

Staff/Others: Steve Malizia, Town Administrator; Jim Michaud, Chief Assessor; William Avery, Police Chief; Elvis Dhima, Town Engineer; Robert Buxton, Fire Chief; John Beike, IT Specialist; David Yates, Recreation Director; Jess Forrence, Public Works Director

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Chairman Morin asked is there anybody in the audience that would like to do public input. Seeing none we'll move on.

5. RECOGNITIONS, NOMINATIONS, APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

a) Resignation of Benson Park Committee member, Casey Davies

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Roy, to accept the notice of resignation from Benson Park Committee member, Casey Davies with the Board's thanks and appreciation, carried 5-0.

Chairman Morin asked the Town Administrator to have HCTV run an ad for an open spot on the Benson Park Committee. Mr. Malizia said certainly.

b) John Beike "Going the Extra Mile" Hudson School District

Chairman Morin recognized IT Specialist John Beike. John, Mr. Malizia received this the other day from Lawrence Russell the Superintendent of Schools.

It says, "Dear Steve, Last spring the Hudson School District formed a committee to develop the District's strategic plan. We asked someone to join the committee as a representative of the town. John Beike volunteered to join the committee. He quickly became an active participant attending community input events, community meetings, and School Board meetings, as well as sharing his thoughtful input. His work exemplifies the spirit of the school and town cooperation."

On behalf of the School District and with the Board of Selectmen's thanks, Chairman Morin presented Mr. Beike with this certificate. Thank you very much for your hard work at the committee. We very much appreciate it.

Selectman Coutu commented the war is over. We're working with the School Department. Chairman Morin indicated that's a good thing.

6. CONSENT ITEMS

Chairman Morin asked does any Board member wish to remove any item for separate consideration. Seeing none.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Roy, to approve Consent Items A, B, C, D, E, and F, as noted and appropriate, carried 5-0.

A. Assessing Items

- 1) Current Use Lien Release - Map 178, Lot 34-16, Teagans Way

B. Water/Sewer Items - None

C. Licenses & Permits & Policies

- 1) Tag Day Permit - Salvation Army

D. Donations

- 1) \$486.20 from AAT Photo LLC, dba Clix New England

E. Acceptance of Minutes

- 1) Minutes of the October 8, 2019 Meeting

F. Calendar

- 10/22 7:00 Board of Selectmen - BOS Meeting Room
- 10/23 7:00 Planning Board - Buxton Meeting Room
- 10/24 3:00 Trustees of the Trust Fund - Buxton Meeting Room
- 10/24 7:00 Zoning Board of Adjustment - Buxton Meeting Room
- 10/24 7:00 Board of Selectmen/Budget - BOS Meeting Room
- 10/28 7:00 Sustainability Committee - Buxton Meeting Room
- 10/29 12:00 ZBA Application Deadline
- 10/31 - Trick or Treat - 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
- 10/29 7:00 Board of Selectmen/Budget - BOS Meeting Room
- 11/05 7:00 Board of Selectmen/Workshop - BOS Meeting Room
- 11/07 6:30 Recreation Committee - BOS Meeting Room
- 11/07 7:00 Benson Park Committee - Hudson Cable Access Center
- 11/11 - Town Hall Closed - Veterans Day

7. OLD BUSINESS

A. Votes taken after Nonpublic Session on October 8, 2019

- 1) *Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to seal the minutes, carried 5-0.*
- 2) *Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Roy, to approve the Town Clerk/Tax Collectors request to buy out 80 hours of vacation time, carried 5-0.*
- 3) *Motion to adjourn at 9:06 p.m. by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Roy, carried 5-0.*

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Water Main Acceptance - Lee Way

Chairman Morin recognized Town Engineer Elvis Dhima.

Thank you Mr. Chairman. Good evening everyone. Elvis Dhima indicated my first item for you tonight is the water main extension on Lee Way. This is a three lot subdivision with an additional single family home at a later time. This will provide domestic needs and fire protection and it will be town property. It passed

the bacteria test and the pressure test. It's in front of you tonight for acceptance as recommended by myself, the DPW Director, and the Municipal Utility Committee. With that said, I'll take any questions you might have.

Selectman McGrath asked about the sewer line. Does that have any bearing on this at all? Mr. Dhima said the sewer is not ready for prime time yet. Sewer is separate than the water but the sewer they're still working on.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to accept the water line at Lee Way as recommended by the Town Engineer, DPW Director and Municipality Utility Committee, carried 5-0.

B. Request for Corridor Funds - Traffic Camera Software Licenses

Chairman Morin to recognize Town Engineer Elvis Dhima.

Elvis Dhima stated my second item for you tonight is corridor expenditures. This is related to software at two different locations. As you know, Kimball Hill and 111 is a State intersection but the town invested a lot of corridor money to add another lane to make that intersection safer. At that time, we added a grid smart camera as well but without the license to do traffic counts. Elm and Route 102 we also had a developer that constructed the CVS store to install a traffic camera as well. At the time, the software wasn't required. As we got more training and we got more into our operation and maintenance of the traffic, we feel this too are key intersections for the town do need traffic counts to provide us a better idea to what's going on with the traffic volume and in depth analysis of what's going on in town at these two locations. With that said, I went in front of the Planning Board and I got their approval for this to use corridor funds. This will be 100 percent funded by corridor funds and I'm in front of you tonight to ask for your approval as well.

Selectman Coutu said first of all I want to extend my sincere appreciation to the Town Engineer again for doing everything that he can to have better control of our main corridors and the lights that we own. Again we're nearing the end so thank god. We put up any more lights, you're going to need 4 or 5 more televisions screens in your office and they can only hold so many. With that said Mr. Chairman, and thanks again Elvis great job, I'd like to make a motion.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Martin, to waive the bid process and sole source this work to Electric Light, Inc. for the following reasons: 1) they have been and currently are our traffic light consultant and contractor; and 2) they currently provide support services for such systems.

Selectman McGrath commented the corridor funds are the cap fees that the Planning Board collects so that alleviates any impact to the taxpayer.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Martin, to approve and proceed with the purchase of one license for Route 102 using Corridor Account #: 2000-2070-000-091, not to exceed \$4,500, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman Roy, to approve and proceed with the purchase of one license for Route 111 using Corridor Account #: 2000-2070-000-086, not to exceed \$4,500, carried 5-0.

C. Request for Corridor Funds - Lowell Rd. Traffic Light Upgrades

Chairman Morin to recognize Town Engineer Elvis Dhima.

Elvis Dhima noted this is my item for you tonight is again traffic related. This is regarding the three intersections that are left on Lowell Road that do not have the upgrades that we have throughout town. The three intersections in front of you tonight are Lowell and Birch, Lowell and Executive, and Lowell and Oblate. These will be equipped with state of the art detection cameras, controllers, and they'll be fed from their locations to our main hub through fiber. We have done this work in the past. This will conclude the

undertaking that this town took about three years ago. It will be one of the few municipalities out there that will have such a system at all the traffic municipality owned intersections are on this platform connected through fiber. It's something you should all be proud of. I told the same thing to the Planning Board. It's a big achievement. It's a big ta doo and it puts us in a whole new level when it comes to traffic division, operation and maintenance. It's a big, big deal. With that said, I did get the approval from the Planning Board. This is 100 percent funded by corridor fees that the Planning Board collects. I'm in front of you tonight to ask for your approval.

Selectman Coutu thanked Elvis. This will culminate that project. Good job.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to waive the bid process and sole source this work to Electric Light, Inc. for the following reasons: 1) they have been and currently are our traffic light consultant and contractor; 2) they are currently the only company that provides expertise and equipment in such system platforms; and 3) they currently provide support services for such systems.

Selectman McGrath commented again no impact to the taxpayers in Hudson. These are all cap fee funds that are paying for this.

Chairman Morin stated the traffic on Library Street it used to go from Ferry Street to Central Street. Now it goes maybe to Library Street School. It is working very, very well. Mr. Dhima said we're hoping these three additional intersections that are in front of you tonight for approval will be on flash like Pelham and Fox. So the entire Lowell Road will be on flash from Wason all the way down to Central. There can be other things done - winter operations. It could become very handy. It's a big deal to have such ability to make changes whenever needed.

Selectman Coutu said when first notified by Mr. Dhima that he was going to put this on a trial run. I think you started that about two weeks ago now where he was going to have the flashing yellow at some of these intersections and he started with Lowell and Pelham and Fox Hollow I believe were the two that you started with. I made it a point to go down there after 11 p.m. one evening and I went twice early morning with the express purpose of just pulling in and watching and see how the flow was. Obviously there's not an awful lot of traffic but it fits our needs in order to get the flow to run smoothly up and down the main corridor at that point its Lowell Road and I'm glad to see that you're going to do a trial on other intersections. Again thank you.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to approve and proceed with Lowell & Birch, Lowell & Executive and Lowell & Oblate intersection upgrade project using Corridor Account #: 2070-000-701, not to exceed \$54,986.25, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to approve and proceed with Lowell & Birch, Lowell & Executive and Lowell & Oblate intersection upgrade project using Corridor Account #: 2070-000-702, not to exceed the amount of \$54,986.25, carried 5-0.

D. Renaming of Position and Job Description, Request to Post for Position

Chairman Morin recognized Chief Assessor Jim Michaud.

Good evening. Jim Michaud stated I first wish to congratulate Mike Pietraskiewicz in the Assessing Department for his pending day and retirement in late December of this year. He has well earned his retirement. He's been a great employee. He has gone beyond the call of duty on many occasions. I've learned a lot from him not just in terms of assessing but in terms of life and his wealth of life experiences.

To the matter at hand, Mr. Michaud indicated the Board has my memo with a request for a revised position title change and revised job description attachment. Its 19 years with the position of Assessment Technician and that is simply an outdated title not in use by municipalities and doesn't reflect the importance of a second in command position for the department. As the memo states, I've reviewed 11 communities and the prevalent title and job description is that of "Deputy Assessor". It makes sense to rename the position to

reflect the position title so that is contemporary use today and will greatly assist us when recruiting for this position.

Selectman Coutu said I reviewed the job description that was provided to us by the Chief Assessor and I want to say that I've written and I've read a lot of descriptions. This one is thorough and quite inclusive and pretty much explains what you're going to do and what the requirements are.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to retitle the position of Assessment Technician to Deputy Assessor and to approve the posting of the position, carried 5-0.

E. Hillsborough County Registry of Deeds Fees

Chairman Morin recognized Chief Assessor Jim Michaud.

Jim Michaud explained the next item I'm looking for some consensus from the Board. The memo is fairly lengthy but the Registry of Deeds has adopted new software and in the process of doing that, they've changed how they're going to treat the 43 municipalities that are in Hillsborough County and that they are going to charge us \$2 a page for when we print out a deed per page - a deed, a mortgage.

Steve Malizia said on our copiers, correct.

Jim Michaud said on our copiers using our ink effective January 1st. This isn't just an assessing issue but it certainly is an assessing issue but also Planning prints them out, Steve's office prints them out, Donna Staffier, Patti Barry and we collect the revenue for the County that's in the memo. We don't charge them anything for collecting the revenue and giving it to them. We don't charge them for the bill - \$2 a bill. When the Board of Selectmen approves abatements, there's a County portion and we don't back bill them for that. I realize other counties have also gone down this road so 9 out of 10 are doing this. They're pushing the deeds to us today into our server and we're printing them out. After January 1st if we need to go back and look at deeds, look at plans, look at releases of liens, etc., after January 1st we're going to be charged \$2 a page. It just doesn't make any sense. I realize they can do it because the law allows them to do it. A number of communities that I have talked to wish to get an LSR put in by a Senator because right now the House of Representatives filing period for the next session has ended but the Senate filing period goes through the end of this month. Not going it alone. I just want to get a Senator to sponsor. We believe we have one in the Manchester area that would be conducive and again, other communities are looking at this. I talked to NHMA about it. Typically NHMA plays nice with NH Association of counties so while we don't expect them to necessarily help us, they're not going to be hurting us either. I just think it's the right thing that we should not be charged for printing out documents that apply to our community. We're not selling them. We're not stealing any revenue or anything like that. First thing to do though is to get an LSR in. You don't go anywhere without that. Just looking for consensus of the Board.

Selectman Coutu asked have you spoken to Senator Carson at all. Jim Michaud indicated I have not. I don't have a just call her up kind of relationship with her. I haven't but I'd be more than willing and of course the Board with this memo has enough talking points. Having read this, Selectman Coutu noted it was disturbing to see that they're doing this. I would support not only you have my consent to want to proceed to take the steps that would remedy this because it's not going to be a major tax burden. It's a nuisance is basically what it is. It's a real nuisance and it's petty to get to this level. I would support if the Board would agree that we send a letter to Senator Carson. I don't know if you have a lead person. As long as the Municipal Association is not going to fight us. You said that they're not. Even if they take a wait and see, I'm fine with that. Don't oppose it but if we can get the sponsor for the legislation, I'd like it to see it be our Senator because she has a tremendous amount of influence in the State Senate. Being a Republican and they're still controlled by the Republicans - the Senate is anyway.

Selectman Roy disagreed. The Democrats control.

Selectman Coutu said this is a common sense thing. It's not a Republican or Democratic thing. Jim Michaud indicated it would be nice to have bipartisan co-sponsors on it. Selectman Coutu said if the Senator from Manchester that might be amenable to doing this is one persuasion of one party and the other is the other

all the better. I will support it. Thank you for bringing that to our attention. I would support a letter from this Board to Senator Carson asking for her support.

Chairman Morin asked none of the other counties fought this. Jim Michaud said not to my knowledge. Other municipalities haven't fought this in the other - and I'll step back for a minute. Hillsborough County has always been great the Registry of Deeds. We've always been to print for free our documents. Other counties have not always been that way. For some other counties, it might have been the frog was already in the pot of boiling water and it couldn't jump out. We will hear from other communities once this is filed for support of it. They just haven't taken it on.

Selectman Coutu said I had the distinct opportunity being appointed by former Governor Lynch to serve on the State Assessing Standards Board, I can tell you that based on that short experience and my longevity here on the Board of Selectmen, not too many municipalities have an assessor that's as committed and works as hard as Mr. Michaud. We're very fortunate to have him. Anybody else could have just fluffed this off and said it is what it is let it be. He is bringing it before us for us to take corrective action. It may or may not fly but it's worth a try.

Selectman McGrath had a question and I'm in full support of that as well and reach out to as many contacts that you have that would be agreeable to filing that. If that effort fails and they bill us \$2 per page going forward January 1st you said, what is our ability then to charge them for collecting the fees that we have to collect? We have no ability. Mr. Michaud said there's no statutory authority to back bill them or bill them for the work that we do no more than we would do for the school district, although I would argue that's completely different from the county. There is no ability. Essentially Selectman McGrath said its double taxation. That's really what it is. We're collecting taxes that we send up to the County that's part of our tax bill and then they're going to charge us to print any documents that is necessary for the running of our office and we have no ability to...Jim Michaud said that's correct. Right now we're printing documents now. We receive the current deeds that come in but on occasion we've already had to print some items and we get a monthly bill from them. I got an e-mail sent to me saying ignore the bill. I'm presented with some kind of well you can't do that. There needs to be a software change. I can say that there doesn't need to be. There just needs to be an e-mail to us each month saying ignore the bill. I mean it's really that simple. Each Registrar of Deeds can decide to do what they want to do. By Statute, they have the ability to charge and they've not been charging us so they have the continuing ability to not charge us. If the Registrar of Deeds comes in front of the Board next month and says I won't charge you, it doesn't solve it for the other counties and another Registrar of Deeds comes in, they can make a different decision.

Selectman McGrath noted it's really unfortunate and very troubling to think that they would do that to municipalities because it really is double taxation.

Selectman Roy found \$2 per page is rather steep. I don't know where that came up with that number. Do you have any idea what it would cost on an annual basis? Jim Michaud said I put in it's really just an estimate towards the third paragraph. I'm thinking around \$500 a year for assessing. I can't speak to how the other agencies. So again it's just an estimate because we never kept track before. We kind of don't know and in certain years we'd be heavier than other years like say leading to a revaluation or something like that. We're not getting less properties. We're not getting less complications. If anything, we need to have more documentation. Selectman Roy said I would certainly support your efforts and I agree with Selectman Coutu to send a letter as a Board to the Senate or anybody representing us. Anybody that can support this cause.

Chairman Morin said if nobody has anything else, a consensus on what's written and add the letter to send to Senator Carson. Is that okay with everybody? Selectman McGrath noted and anyone else.

F. Bid Recommendation - Multi-use Athletic Field Assessment

Chairman Morin to recognize Recreation Director Dave Yates.

Good evening. Dave Yates indicated the Board requested an engineering assessment of Liberty Field. We advertised in the Union Leader. The Town Engineer and myself met four parties at the field so they could

analyze and see what the situation was. We received four bids. We're recommending that we go with the low bidder Wilson and Barton which was \$6,000.

Selectman Roy asked that bid is significantly lower than the other bids that came up and then there is some language about additional services if necessary. I was wondering why is it coming in so low. Mr. Yates asked to yield to the Town Engineer. This is his expertise.

Elvis Dhima said I checked the references and I also asked around a little bit. The references usually they're great. It's my understanding they're trying to build a civil engineering division in New Hampshire so I think they're doing almost everything at cost. They're trying to build a clientele or list so I think that's why they're a little lower than the rest of them. Also as you can see from the proposal, why the scope of work is the same. Their packet wasn't as fancy as the rest of them so I think they saved a little money there as well. I did have discussion with the lead project manager and I explained to her that will they be able to this work for this amount of money. She was confident that they would. They've done this work before. The subcontractor they're getting to do this evaluation also checked out. I think they're just doing it at cost. I think they're just trying to build their clientele. That's typically usually when (inaudible) is trying to build a branch out of New Hampshire or other divisions. That's what I got when I asked around.

Selectman Coutu said I didn't have an opportunity to speak to the Recreation Director but I spoke to our Town Engineer Elvis Dhima. I mentioned to him that I expressed some concern about Wilcox and Barton not as a first-hand knowledge of anything. I, too, noticed that the bid was - we're talking the difference of \$4,000 but when you look at the scope of things, you say wow that is a considerable drop. He told me exactly what he just told us. I called a couple of people in the engineering field and they told me that engineering companies are popping up now. One of the things that municipalities look for typically in a bid process is how much work have you done for other municipalities. They want to compare apples to apples and oranges to oranges. You can work for John Doe, Inc. and you're doing some field work for them but did you work for another municipality because municipalities are unique unto themselves and people would be more comfortable being able to call another municipality to get a reference. Although they had no idea who this company was, they did say to me that they understand doing things at cost which is not something that you told me. I heard that as well from one of the two other agencies that I spoke to. It's not unusual for a company when they're starting out to do things at cost in order to get their name out there. I respect your judgement on this and I will be supporting this.

Elvis Dhima said there is a risk to everything obviously and it's okay to be a little hesitant with a company that we've done work before. We have done the same when we did a pump station lift when we hired the low bid. We never worked with them before and they did an outstanding job for us - Sewer Interstate they worked on the Sagamore Bridge so they worked out great but I totally understand that hesitation a little bit because we've never done work with them before like you said. I think they're going to work out. We're going to keep an eye out on them. We'll be out there when they do the testings. I think from what I heard that they will be able to do this. They've done similar work. I think we may get some good answers out of this.

Selectman Coutu said I have one more question if I might Mr. Chairman. Mr. Dhima I started reading this and I don't know what happened I never got through all of it. At the end after they do the assessment, now this is so the listening public will understand, this is for the new field that was constructed and for whatever reason is under water. This is to ascertain what caused the problem. I hope that at the end result of their testing, and I think ground borings will tell an awful lot, that they're going to be able to give us a corrective plan of action and an estimate of costs for the corrective plan of action.

Elvis Dhima said the scope of work the way we laid it out is do the field assessment and figure out what's causing it. If it's the side, if it's offsite drainage, or if it's a combination of both and figure out without getting into the design but give us options. Option A is to lift the field half a foot, build drainage around it, intercept all the drainage prior to getting to the field, and what the cost would that be for the design and the construction. Basically we're looking for some alternatives and some options once we figure out to what we believe is causing this. Right now it's been dry since - when the last time we went over there Selectman Morin August/September. It's definitely during the spring time. It could be the ground water recharging but

they will be able to give us a better idea. They are hiring a geotech company that all they do is specialize in soil so we'll get some answers.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to award the bid for the Multi-use Athletic Field Assessment for Liberty Field to Wilcox and Barton, in the amount of \$6,000 with funds from the Recreation Fees account (2050-182) as recommended by the Recreation Director and the Finance Director, carried 5-0.

G. Retirement of Firefighter/Paramedic, Thomas Sullivan

Chairman Morin recognized Fire Chief Robert Buxton.

Good evening Mr. Chairman and members of the Board. Fire Chief Rob Buxton said I'm here tonight to bring forward the retirement from Firefighter/Paramedic Tom Sullivan. Tom's been with the Fire Department for 30 years. He started with the Fire Department was actually an Explorer member of the Call Department so total time is well over 35 years. It is his intent to retire effective the end of October.

Chairman Morin asked if there were any questions.

Selectman Coutu indicated we're going to miss him. He's a great guy.

Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Roy, to accept the notice to retire from Firefighter/Paramedic Thomas Sullivan effective October 31, 2019 with the Board's thanks and appreciation, carried 5-0.

H. Resignation of Lieutenant/AEMT, Dennis Haerinck

Chairman Morin recognized Fire Chief Robert Buxton.

Fire Chief Buxton explained the second one is a resignation from Lieutenant Dennis Haerinck who is moving on to the Milford Fire Department. He is taking a position of a Captain of Training over in Milford effective October 29th of this month.

Chairman Morin said this is kind of upsetting because the Chief told us this was the rising star at our last meeting and now we're losing him. Any further questions.

Selectman Coutu stated I had the opportunity to speak to Dennis on a couple of occasions in the past two or three weeks. I had the opportunity through my experiences with the Fire Department both good and bad of having had a lot of conversation with him over the past few years. I feel he's going to be a tremendous lost to us as is Firefighter Sullivan but I understand. People want to move on. They want to better themselves. He saw an opportunity. He lives in that community. It's good for him and he won't have to burn as much gas. Chief Buxton said it still hurts. Selectman Coutu said we're going to miss him but we move on.

Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Roy, to accept the letter of resignation from Lieutenant/AEMT Dennis Haerinck effective October 29, 2019 with the Board's thanks and appreciation, carried 5-0.

I. Retirement of Deputy Chief, John J. O'Brien

Chairman Morin recognized Fire Chief Robert Buxton.

Chief Buxton indicated the third and final one for you this evening Mr. Chairman is the retirement notice of Deputy Chief John O'Brien effective November 1, 2019. John leaves us after seven years as a Deputy Fire Chief with over 44 years total service in the fire service.

Selectman Coutu said I'd like to say one thing for the record. We reminisced the other evening at the awards banquet for the Fire Department about how John came on board. It all happened over lunch but we wanted him. We convinced him to come here. I want the citizens of Hudson to know that we're not having a mass

exodus of the Hudson Fire Department. All of this is coincidental. John had planned this some time out. Dennis was just offered that position so he jumped for it and I don't blame him. Tom Sullivan we knew was going to retire after 30 years. This is very coincidental but I want to assure the citizens of Hudson that the Fire Department is in good hands. It's not an end all. It's the beginning of movement within the department and an opportunity for others that are going to be promoted. Everything is fine. A new chapter.

Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to accept the notice to retire from Deputy Chief John J. O'Brien effective November 1, 2019 with the Board's thanks and appreciation, carried 5-0.

J. Meeting Schedule 2020

Chairman Morin recognized Town Administrator Steve Malizia.

Steve Malizia said I've prepared the meeting schedule for next calendar year. A couple things I want to point out. Obviously we have some pretty big elections next year. Right now the Presidential Primary is scheduled for February 11th but that could change. In anticipation of it being on the 11th, this meeting will be the 10th which is a Monday but again subject to potentially change. Town Meeting is on March 10th. That's the voting session of the two sessions. The meeting for that will be on the 9th which is a Monday and I come down to there's a State Primary this year which will be held I believe on the 14th. It's actually held the day after Labor Day. So we're probably not going to meet on Labor Day. I've moved that meeting to the 15th which is the following Tuesday unless you want to do something different. Typically if we have a Tuesday election, we move the meeting to Monday. In that case, Monday is Labor Day and I'm not sure where everybody will be. People travel. People go away. It's the last weekend of summer so I took the liberty of putting it on the 15th.

Selectman Martin said can we meet at Robinson Pond and see the Lake Host.

If this is acceptable, Mr. Malizia said a motion to approve it would be in order.

Motion by Selectman Roy, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to approve the Board of Selectman's 2020 Meeting Schedule as outlined in the Memo from the Town Administrator, carried 5-0.

9. REMARKS BY SCHOOL BOARD - None

10. OTHER BUSINESS/REMARKS BY THE SELECTMEN

Selectman McGrath - I don't really have anything to say other than to just make note that I attended the awards ceremony the other night for the Fire Department. I thought it was very well attended. I had the opportunity to meet one of the firefighters that is leaving us and I was able to at least offer him my thanks and congratulations on his new appointment. I thought it was a very nice event. Thank you.

Selectman Coutu - Other than to - I'll hold this for later. I'll pass. Thank you.

Selectman Roy - The only thing I have is to remind people that this Saturday at 10 a.m. to noon at Nottingham West for the Master Plan. Wednesday is 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. I encourage as many people as possible to come out and participate in that.

To reiterate because I've said it before, Selectman McGrath said this is an important task that the Town Planner has undertaken. It's mandated by State Statute that we have a Master Plan and that allows us to collect impact fees which as evidenced by the actions that we took tonight for the cameras and the traffic controls for the various corridors in Hudson. We were able to accomplish that by the collection of cap fees. The Master Plan process is a required thing but it's also an opportunity for the residents that have concerns about how the town is being developed, whether they want to see different types of development, whether they'd rather see different types of businesses, rather they'd rather see conservation land being purchased, and also the traffic. I'm sure people have concerns about it but if you don't participate in this, then any

complaints that you have or any issues that you have no one will know about them because it kind of just goes into the ethers. This is an opportunity for the citizens of this town to go out. It's not going to be confrontational at all. It's going to be set up so that you're sitting with other fellows residents and having discussions among yourselves about what you're concerned with and how you'd like to make changes. I think it's a very valuable way to spend your time and it's not lengthy. You can go to one meeting. You can go to two meetings or you can go to all of them. They're going to be held in three different sessions - two sessions this fall and one next spring. That's all. Thank you.

Selectman Coutu wanted to extend my sincere appreciation to Selectman McGrath and our Town Planner Brian Groth for coming down to the Hudson Community Television station and I want to thank HCTV for their allowing us to do this and airing a promotional piece that we put together with the Executive Director of the Nashua Regional Planning Commission who will also be working with us on the plan. I can't emphasize enough to the citizens of Hudson that this is a golden opportunity for them to join in and let us know exactly what is on their mind, what is problematic to them, and not that they're going to have the solutions but we want to know what the priorities are. We can sometimes be blinded by our politics, by discussions that are held here. We become focused and entrenched on one aspect of our town government like for years I've been talking about traffic. That one thought process blinds you from other areas that are problematic and may very well be linked. To me what the Town Planner and NRPC have put together affords our community, our community whether you're a renter, a taxpayer, you're riding our roads, going to our conservation land, you're watching the growth. You have opinions. You may not like the growth. You may not like the direction the town is going in. You might not like certain streets but others are fine. You might like certain parks or maybe you want more. You may want more fields. You may be concerned about our waterways, our sewerage, our water system, thinking about expansion. We want to hear what's on your mind. This is more important to me than the Presidential election because this affects you personally each and every day. It's not a news blurb that you pick up on because somebody tweeted something, or somebody said something, or this party is doing this, and that party is doing that. Yes it affects us but this is our everyday life. This is our community and the only way that we're going to be able to solve the problems of this community is if our citizens come together in this very informal as Selectman McGrath as she alluded to, it's going to be a very informal casual setup where 6 to 8 people are going to be sitting at a table and you're going to be talking amongst yourself and somebody is going to be taking notes to what you're saying and we're going to know firsthand what's on your mind so that when we develop a Master Plan, we're truly addressing the issues and the problems that our citizens see and not just a bunch of politicians who meet at the square table every other Tuesday. We need your input and we hope that you will participate. The more the merrier. We will accommodate everybody that's necessary to accommodate in order to get a more comprehensive Master Plan that will put our community in the right direction. Thank you.

Selectman McGrath asked to add two things. The other thing that's accomplished by a Master Plan is the ability to make changes to zoning. Certain neighborhoods may have issues with they're a small neighborhood they want to stay residential. They don't want businesses and if the zoning currently allows that type of activity to take place, that gives the Planner notice that these types of neighborhoods want to stay strictly residential. So that can facilitate a zoning change that ultimately goes before the voters. We don't act on the zoning changes. We can prepare them, present them to the voters, and they implement them if they so choose. That's one think.

The other point Selectman McGrath said to be made because I know for some people it's intimidating to come in to an area that they're not accustomed to and maybe feeling that they're going to be dealing with officials and these sessions are going to be presented by the Town Planner and by NRPC Jay Minkarah. I don't plan to attend any of them. I don't need to and people don't need to hear what I have to say about my thoughts because I have a platform and I express myself I think fairly well sometimes. It's not for me. It's not for the officials. It's for the people of the town that these sessions are being held.

Like you, Selectman Coutu said I won't be attending so that my mind is not being cluttered and biased by anything that I might see or hear. I want to see the end product as presented to us by the Town Planner and Mr. Minkarah from the Nashua Regional Planning Commission.

Selectman McGrath indicated it won't be confrontational at all. It will be very well laid back and there will be encouraging people to express themselves. Selectman Coutu said it's a great approach to developing the Master Plan and I like it.

Selectman Martin - I don't have much but I hope you folks the voters out here are paying attention to what's going on in town. The budgets are being presented not only on the Board of Selectmen side but also on the school side. They just scheduled another meeting for next Monday night coming to finalize their budgets. If you're interested, please go. There's a time to ask questions when they have it in their hands before they send it off and don't have it in their hands. That's all I have tonight.

Selectman Morin - The only thing I have is also on Saturday morning at 9 a.m. There will be a ribbon cutting on the new conservation land at 68 Pelham Road. There is some parking issues out there. The best bet is to park along the road on Pelham Road. I know the Conservation Commission is going to approach the Police Chief just to have a cruiser swing by to make sure we're all set - 9 a.m. on Saturday morning. That's all I have.

11. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Roy, to enter nonpublic session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a) The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted; (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee; and (c) Matter which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests and open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, it based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant, carried 5-0 by roll call.

Chairman Morin entered Nonpublic Session at 7:53 p.m., thus ending the televised portion of the meeting. Any votes taken upon entering open session will be listed on the Board's next agenda. Open session is entered at 9:20p.m.

Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to accept the resignation of truck driver/laborer, Louis Pilat, effective October 22, 2019, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to re-hire John Dowgos and offer the second position to Garrett Leor, as Truck Driver/Laborers, at a rate of \$18.75 per hour (Grade VIII, Step Minimum), in accordance with the Hudson Public Works AFSCME Local 1801 contract, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to promote Lieutenant/Paramedic Kevin Blinn to the position of Captain/Paramedic, a non-exempt position, in accordance with the Police, Fire and Town Hall Supervisors Association, Contract Step 1, with an hourly rate of \$36.5169 effective Sunday, November 3, 2019, as recommended by the Fire Chief, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to promote Firefighter/AEMT Michael Mallen to the position of Lieutenant/AEMT, a non-exempt position, in accordance with the International Association of Firefighters Local #3154, Contract Step 1, with an hourly rate of \$27.57 effective Sunday, November 3, 2019, as recommended by the Fire Chief, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman Roy, to promote Firefighter/Paramedic Kyle Levesque to the position of Lieutenant/Paramedic, a non-exempt position, in accordance with the International Association of Firefighters Local #3154, Contract Step1, with an hourly rate of \$28.93 effective Sunday, November 3, 2019, as recommended by the Fire Chief, carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Martin, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to authorize the Fire Chief to advertise for two full-time Firefighters (AEMT or Paramedic), carried 5-0.

Motion by Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to hire five full-time Police Officers: Ethan Brodell, Cecelia Ortega, John Pinard, Adam Royston and Victoria Shaw with a starting salary of \$23.68 per hour, each all in accordance with the Hudson Police Employee Association Contract, carried 5-0.

Motion Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to promote Police Lieutenant David Bianchi to the position of Police Captain at \$97,596.00 in accordance with the Hudson Police, Fire, Town Supervisors Association Contract (Step 5). This elevation in rank would be effective on Monday, November 4, 2019, carried 5-0.

Motion Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to promote Police Sergeant Steven McElhinney to Police Lieutenant at \$81,225.00 in accordance with the Hudson Police, Fire, Town Supervisors Association Contract (Step 3). This elevation in rank would be effective on Monday, November 4, 2019, carried 5-0.

Motion Selectman Coutu, seconded by Selectman McGrath, to promote Police Master Patrol Officer Patrick Broderick to the position of Police Sergeant at \$35.53 per hour according to the Hudson Police Employee Association Contract (Step 5). This elevation in rank would be effective on Monday, November 4, 2019, carried 5-0.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 9:26p.m. by Selectman Roy, seconded by Selectman McGrath, carried 5-0.

Recorded by HCTV and transcribed by Donna Graham, transcriptionist.

David S. Morin, Chairman

Norman G. Martin, Selectman

Kara Roy, Vice-Chairman

Roger E. Coutu, Selectman

Marilyn E. McGrath, Selectman